

the CARRIER

W6CX



the MOUNT DIABLO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

VOLUME XXXVII - ISSUE 8 - AUGUST 1988

NEPTUNE FLYBY and SHUTTLE FLIGHT ON A.T.V.

NEPTUNE FLYBY
By Mike Scott, N6GOZ

This month the spacecraft Voyager 2 is scheduled to pass close to the planet Neptune as it continues its voyage through the outer reaches of the galaxy. Live coverage of this historic event will commence August 21st at 9am PST and continue through August, 29th. Daily coverage will conclude around 5:30pm except for August 24th which is the day of the closest pass, when additional coverage is scheduled.

SHUTTLE FLIGHT

The upcoming flight of the shuttle Columbia currently set for August 7th will be carried live on the Amateur Television Repeater. This is a Department of Defense mission so coverage will no doubt be limited due to the sensitive nature of the payload. We will, however, rebroadcast anything and everything that comes off the satellite..... All NASA related telecasts originate from Satcom 2 orbiting some 22,000 miles above the earth. They are received at our downlink site (courtesy Distant Mirror Satellite) which is located in Walnut Creek and then uplinked at 1.2 GHz to the repeater on Mount Diablo.

ATV REPEATER UPDATE
By Mike Scott, N6GOZ

The repeater continues to function fairly well and supports a high amount of ATV activity. In the coming weeks we will change out of the existing receiver and try replacing it with a new crystal controlled unit. The current color bars that are present when no video is being transmitted to the repeater are going to be replaced with a sequential four picture display including color bars that will last for 4 minutes instead of the current 1 minute display. The commercial 2.4 GHz unit is currently undergoing modification and on-the-air testing up in Sacramento. This 100W transmitter, which was procured by Pete WB6QIX will be on the air some 20 hours a day giving us a microwave output that can be received on those 2ft HBO dishes that are available very cheaply at fleamarkets, garage sales, etc. This frequency will also allow us to get away from the radar interference that troubles our UHF output.....My thanks to Pete, Jim and the gang in Sacramento for the equipment for this project, and also to Jim W6ASL who is procuring the use of some antennas on the hill.

PRESIDENTIAL QRM

I HAVE A COUPLE OF URGENT REQUESTS
OF YOU . . . SO READ ON !

Jay Caldis, KT6Y, has had to resign as Education Chairman due to a new part-time job and some family matters. I am sorry to see Jay leave us after 18 years of on and off service to that position. He has been ever constant and we owe a deep vote of thanks to his continued efforts in getting new HAMS licensed and old HAMS upgraded!

Jay has told me he would be delighted to get a new person filled-in on how to do the job. It consists of reserving classrooms, getting teachers, publicity etc. You need not teach classes if you do not desire to do so. Please someone out there, step up to this important position. Our Club is one of the few in the near vicinity that offers classes and I want to see this continue.

On the same lines as the above URGENT request I am asking you to please step forward to serve as an officer next year. Our nominating committee consists of Stan, WU6P; George, KI6YK; Paul, N6PAC; and Dick, AA6DL. I am not returning as your Club President next year and I'm not sure many of your Board is staying on. We need interested people to come forward and run for office so this Club can continue to function and be the best Club in the area!

Glenn and I had the opportunity to have a QSO with GM4AGS, John, in Scotland recently. He is trying for the California award and needs confirmed contacts. He has made many contacts, over what is required, but it seems a great many California HAMS are unwilling to confirm his contacts with a QSL card.

Remember other people are also working for awards, just like you, and you know

how frustrating it is not to get those QSL cards when you need them.

Last on my list is the Picnic, and what a great one it was! Thanks to Lauren WA6CIE and George WB6OFH for such a tremendous job in setting that up for the group. It was much appreciated by us all, gentlemen.

See you all at our next meeting on August 18th. 73 until then...

Vicki, N6KLS

RED CROSS WORK PARTY

By Derek Brown, N6CUK
MDARC Emergency Coordinator

Many thanks to the members of the work party who gave up much of their July 15-16 weekend to complete nearly all of the antenna work at the Concord Red Cross building emergency response site. Vertical antennas for 2 meters, 220, 440 MHz were tested, cleaned and mounted on the existing tower (which was also checked and tightened) and are now fully operable.

The next phases of the project include upgrading of the emergency (battery) power for the radio room, as well as obtaining the radios.

Those participating during the weekend included:

MARK N6MIN, BRIAN N6TDJ,
JOHN N6UGD, DAVE N6VIK,
DEREK N6CUK.

Thanks also to DWAYNE W6LKE for the use of his test equipment.

We are still looking for volunteers who would be able to work with Bancroft Elementary School in Walnut Creek and Valley View Middle School in Pleasant Hill in setting up local emergency response 2m stations. Also, volunteers are needed who would be able to respond to those schools in event of an emergency, especially during school hours.

Contact Derek at 672-2055 (evenings) if you are interested or have questions.

JAY CALDIS, KT6Y, HAS ANNOUNCED HE
WILL RESIGN AS EDUCATION CHAIRMAN
AFTER 18 YEARS.

THANKS

From Jay Caldis, KT6Y

As Education Chairman and/or
Instructor for the past 16-18 years
I have probably had something to do
with half of the Club membership. I
have been very fortunate in that I
have met and had something to do
with a lot of Hams.

Do to things beyond my control
I cannot continue as the Education
Chairman.

It has been a very rewarding
experience. I want to thank all the
teachers who have volunteered their
time over the years. I am sure they
feel it has been a rewarding
experience also.

I would like to ask someone to
take over the duties as Education
Chairman. You do NOT have to teach.
All that is required is reserve the
rooms, obtain the teachers, (the
fall teachers except one are already
on line), be present in case there
is a problem, and more or less co-
ordinate the school.

I have everything that is need-
ed, persons to contact, forms etc.

Let N6KLS Vicki know if you
would like to undertake this very
rewarding job. It is probably one of
the best jobs in the Club as far as
making a contribution to Ham radio.

Again, thanks to all who have
been involved in the school, and I
hope who ever takes over will enjoy
it as much as I have. I will miss
meeting all the new Hams coming into
the hobby.

If you know of anyone whom you
think would be interested in
being Chairman of this Committee
please talk to any member of the
NOMINATING COMMITTEE or
President Vicki

MDARC's CHAIRPERSONS
Second of a Series

THE EDUCATION CHAIRMAN DUTIES AND
RESPONSIBILITIES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. Reserve the class rooms at
College Park High School. Four rooms
in the Spring semester three rooms
in the fall. Application to reserve
the rooms is made at College Park
High School in the Office. Request
the rooms in the "B" Wing.
2. Arrange for Club members to
volunteer to be Theory and Code
Instructors. Two Code Instructors
are needed; one for General and
Extra and one for Novice. Theory
instructors are needed for Novice,
General, Technician, Advanced, and
Extra. One theory back-up instruc-
tor in case one can not teach a
class. One code back-up instructor
needed also.
3. The course is usually for ten
(10) weeks. The instructors divide
the question pool in ten divisions.
They instruct the students on the
harder aspects, and answer their
questions. The Code instructors test
students' progress in learning the
code plus giving them practice and
ideas on how to learn code.
4. The Education Chairman, in the
past, has always been the Novice
code and theory instructor. This is
an important part of the school;
helping the new person get interes-
ted in Ham radio.
5. The rest of the job is really
up to the Chairman, and in the past
has always done things to suit their
own methods.

* * * * *
JAY IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE MDARC
BOARD OF DIRECTORS. AS A MEMBER OF
THE CLUB'S AUDIT COMMITTEE HE MUST
CERTIFY THE CLUB'S CHECKING AND
SAVINGS BALANCES. IN HIS SPARE TIME
HE IS NET CONTROL FOR THE RRRG, AND
THE VOLUNTEER RADIO OFFICER FOR
THE CONCORD POLICE DEPT.

PICNIC HIGHLIGHTS
SUNDAY JULY 23, 1989
By the Editor

It was necessary to reserve the Lafayette Reservoir picnic area for the Club Picnic by being there when the park opened at 6 A.M. - George Jones KI6YK and XYL Lillian got up about 5:15, went to the picnic area by 6 A.M., put some rocks in paper bags on the tables to reserve them. They sat in their car near the tables to reinforce the reservation until George Roush, WB6OFH and XYL Bertha arrived at 9 A.M.

About 60 people attended.

The Potluck lunch was worth waiting for. Delicious. There were soft drinks for everyone.

Jane, N6NVA, Frieda, N6PWT, and Don, N6IZO, were in-charge-of-games and kept everyone entertained.....

(1) 20 people competed in an egg-on-a-spoon relay. Mike KB6FHC, was the winner followed by Dwayne N6SPX. A second relay was won again by Mike and second place by Don N6IZO.

(2) In an adults-only egg toss, alas, there were no winners, only hands-full of raw egg !!

(3) The water-balloon toss had more entrees. 1st winners not breaking the balloon were Dick KT6X and Jay KT6Y, second were George KI6YK and Don N6IZO.

(4) Was it tugs-of-war or tug-of-wars. 12 adults and 4 kids participated and showed who had what-it-took to win. The winners had Glenn, KJ6EN, as their anchor man. (Prizes for this event were tickets for Club door prizes).

Judges for the transmitter hunt and RDF gear were Jane N6NVA, Glenn KJ6EN, and Wayne WB6WZV. PRIZES for RDF gear went to (1) Richard WA5HQJ, (2) George KB6OFH, (3) Derek N6CUK, and (4) Don W6BXE.

Mike Whitten, KB6FHC, absented himself from the group, went to the pre-designated rabbit hiding place (with his new YL, Rose), and talked on a simplex frequency, 5 minutes in

each 8 minutes, so participants could get a fix on the rabbit's location. JOE GREGORY, WA6DQN, was the first to find the rabbit, but had no comment when asked how he did it with just a handheld.

There were non-member prizes and member prizes. Good ones, too. If you didn't come, you may have been a winner !! It was a nice day and sociability was a highlight.

Cold watermelon was served to finish the day.

THANKS TO GEORGE KB6OFH AND XYL
BERTHA FOR ANOTHER GREAT PICNIC !!

George Roush requests we give a SPECIAL THANKS to FRANK SHIMEK, WA6GTQ, a Club member unable to attend our picnics but supplies the tug-of-war equipment and 2 tubs for soft-drink storage. He delivers the above to George's house and picks-them-up after the picnic.....!!!

YELLOW JACKETS AVAILABLE AGAIN !

Yellow windbreakers with "Amateur Radio Communications" on the back, are again available. The cost is \$22 for sizes S thru XL. Add 1\$ for each addl. X size (XXL, etc).

State size when ordering and send your check payable to Walt Ebbett, KB6QIB, 174 Verde Mesa Dr., Danville, Ca. 94526. If you have questions call Walt at 837-2204

DWAYNE ESKRIDGE, W6LKE
SECTION EMERGENCY COORDINATOR
appeared on Channel 64 Saturday July 29 and (rerun) Sunday July 30. The program was "The Informed Viewer" hosted by Margaret Leshar on the subject of Disaster Preparedness. Dwayne gave a good account of himself, telling about his part in the ARES/RACES program, and how Amateur Radio Operators contribute their time toward disaster preparedness.

AWARDS COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON NEEDS YOUR HELP

By Jane Walker, N6NVA

At the general membership meeting on July 21 I handed out forms to all who attended requesting that you write your suggestions or choices for Club member awards for the year 1989.

The awards will be given at the Christmas party in December and it is time to be thinking about who should be receiving some recognition for their contributions to the Club this year.

The form I handed out needed some explanation on at least the first two categories and perhaps a comment on the rest.

The KILROY KEY AWARD is presented to the MDARC member voted to be the most outstanding contributor toward the betterment of Ham radio during the year.

The HAM OF THE YEAR is presented to the MDARC member considered to an outstanding contributor to the betterment of Ham radio and the Club.

The remainder awards, Superior Service Award, Public Service, Elmer, etc. are self explanatory.

PLEASE complete the form and return it to me at the next general Club meeting or mail it to me. My address is in the roster.

At the Gilroy Garlic Festival
it was 'chic to reek'

'the CARRIER' NEWSLETTER EDITOR
STAN CHRISTIAN WU6P
415-672-0330

SEND CONTRIBUTIONS BY:
MAIL - TELEPHONE - N6VV BBS

CLUB MAILING ADDRESS
MOUNT DIABLO AMATUER RADIO CLUB
P.O.BOX 23222
PLEASANT HILL, CA 94523

MDARC MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY UPDATE

by George Jones, K16YK

MDARC is pleased to welcome the following new members:

BUETLER, Walter J. (Walt); N6VEF, Technician; 2845 Via Dominguez, Walnut Creek, CA 94596; (415)-934-7479(h), (415)-825-6333(w)
PELLETIER, Bruce; WA6KOK, Technician; 1635 Nuala St., Concord, CA 94518; (415)-689-2623(h), (415)-798-6593(w)
VEGA, David; SWL; 736 Anderson Dr., Brentwood, CA 94513 (415)-634-3307(h)
ZIRKELBACH, Bob; N6VHS, Technician; 900 Ruth Dr., Pleasant Hill, CA 94523; (415)-685-9520(h)

We congratulate the following on their upgrade and/or new call:

HOWE, Harry M.: AA60X, Extra
NEWMAN, David K.: N6VIK, Technician
REID, Austin W.: Advanced

Please note that Howard Brauer's ZIP code was listed erroneously. It is 94597-1012. Sorry about that!
Please note the following changes:

TIDD, Robert: new address is 2161 Alice Ave., Walnut Creek, CA 94596.

TORMEY, Pete: New address is 2347 Upland Dr., Concord, CA 94520.

MEETING VISITORS

We were delighted to have the following as visitors at our general Club meeting on July 21st:

Richard OLSEN, 197 Plaza Circle, Danville, CA 94526
Paul PETERSON, 1133 Roxie Lane, Walnut Creek, CA 94596
Bruce N. SMITH, 216 Lombardi Circle, Walnut Creek, CA 94598-4907
Alan G. WELLS, K6HA; #22, 270 Chilpancingo Pkwy., Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
JULY FOURTH FIRE PATROL
By Larry Kaye, W6CPO, DEC

Approximately 26 operators participated in the 1989 July Fourth Fire Patrol. Operations were controlled from the RACES station at the C. C. Consolidated Fire District dispatch center. Primary communications used the WA6HAM 147.735 repeater, the W6CX repeater on 147.06 was used for areas not covered by the primary machine.

This year's patrol areas included the San Ramon area (Bolinger Canyon, Crow Canyon and environs); Tassajara and Dougherty roads; Franklin Canyon, Highway Four, and Carquinez Scenic Road; Redwood Park; Tilden Park; Briones Park and the surrounding roads.

Patrol activities began at 1600 hours with a briefing for the first shift and the distribution of magnetic signs and forms. The patrols in west and south county areas ran only one shift, with operators working until the patrols were secured. The northern areas were covered by one shift from 1430 to 1930 and a second from 1930 to 2300.

In addition to the patrol units, Comm Van 45 from the Orinda Fire Department was stationed at Inspiration Point near Tilden Park. This van is fully equipped with both fire radios and Amateur Equipment and cellular telephone. The van was available for backup communications as well as providing additional visibility and public awareness.

The patrol areas were fairly quiet, with fewer incidents than in previous years. A few instances of fireworks near grass areas were reported to the responsible police agencies, and also a few reports of vehicles driving in were also reported.

A NUMBER OF OPERATORS REPORTED
APPRECIATION FROM CITIZENS IN
'HAVING US AROUND'.

ROCKY RIDGE REPEATER GROUP MEETING
General Session 7/19/89

Treasurer's report: \$2992.82 is in the till with all bills paid. There are 115 regular members.

Technical Report: We're on the master UHF receiver now on 440. The master transmitter is ready to go up. There should be good coverage. On 440 talk softly ... the audio swamps the PL audio and the repeater shuts down.

The antenna for 220 is expected back but the Hustler up there now is doing a credible job. Eventually we will tie all 3 systems together, but initially by control operators only.

We made more than 400 contacts on Field Day between 2M and 450. Last year, only 39 contacts were made on 2M.

Rosters and bylaws are available from Rick. Send him a SASE with 2 stamps. You will get a copy of the bylaws with the next dues statement.

Solicit non-members you hear using our machine. Contact Rick to send them a RRRG info package.

Get involved with support of the 220 MHz rethink. If we lose the bottom 2MHz we will lose the pair we are on now. The FCC has taken 38% of all the frequency we have. Take a look in the Regs and see where repeater control frequencies MUST be.

New member Mark N6MIN

Respectfully submitted
Donald K. Ledwith K7SDF
Secretary

* FCC DECLINES TO RECONSIDER *
REALLOCATION

The FCC announced in June that it has reaffirmed its decision to reallocate the 220 to 222 MHz band from the Amateur Radio Service to commercial land-mobile interests.

(Worldradio 8/89 pg.12)

MDARC CLUB MEETING MINUTES 21 July 1989

Pres. Vicki N6KLS called the meeting to order, introduced guests and upgrades.

With one exception the minutes were approved as printed in 'the CARRIER'.

TREASURER REPORT: Club has \$7411.96. If you are in need of a name tag pin see Dick AA6DL.

E.C.: Derek Brown N6CUK still needs help at some of the school sites.

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP: 311 members.

FIELD DAY: Lauren spoke about Field Day, had over 2400 contacts. Lauren WA6CIE, Freda N6PWT, and Vicki N6KLS brought pictures of Field Day, had them on display for the members to have.

AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNICATION JACKETS: If you want to order one see Walt KB6QIB, phone 837 2204.

EDUCATION: Jay Caldis has resigned as Education Chairman. If you can fulfill this position or be a teacher for the classes, please see one of the Board members.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE: If you would like to be an Officer next year, see one of the Nomination committee, Stan Christian, Dick Schulze, Paul Jones, or Dr. George Jones.

The Club received a plaque from the March of Dimes.

Our speaker was Dan Tikalsky, the Civilian Public Officer of the Naval Weapons Station, had a slide show and explanation, many questions were answered. A most interesting presentation, enjoyed by all I'm sure.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Walker N6NVA
MDARC Secretary

Jane Walker is also the Awards Chairman and requests your help. See her column on 'AWARDS' pg. 5

MDARC BOARD MEETING MINUTES 25 JULY 1989

Board Members present:

President	Vicki Zumwalt	N6KLS
Secretary	Jane Walker	N6NVA
Treasurer	Dick Schulze	AA6DL
Emer. Coor.	Derek Brown	N6CUK
Board Member	Jay Caldis	KT6Y

Board Members absent:

Vice Pres.	Dick Brown	KT6X
Board Member	Jim House	KA6IVF

Committee Chairmen present:

Carrier Ed.	Stan Christian	WU6P
Mem./Pub.	Dr. George Jones	KI6YK
Auction/Pub.	Paul Jones	N6PAC

Pres. Vicki N6KLS called the meeting to order, and the last Board Meeting Minutes were accepted.

Treas. Dick gave a financial report of \$7195.12.

Dr. George reported 310 members in MDARC.

The Club needs a chairman for the ham classes. Jay KT6Y will be happy to assist anyone to get started as chairman. He already has most of the teachers.

The Xmas party is 15 Dec. 1989, so save that date. There will be more prizes and surprises. We discussed having \$100.00 more for awards. Jay made a motion, and Derek seconded that we have the extra funds for the awards.

Next Board meeting 22 AUG. 1989.....Dick Schulze home.....

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Walker, N6NVA
MDARC Secretary

THE NEW FCC RULE BOOK

The most sweeping changes in the Amateur Radio rules in decades. Here are the new rules with important interpretations.

FIND OUT WHAT YOU CAN AND CANNOT DO UNDER THE NEW REGULATIONS (Available at all ham radio stores)

CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
 VICKI ZUMWALT N6KLS 458-4527
 VICE PRESIDENT
 DICK BROWN KT6X 676-9048
 SECRETARY
 JANE WALKER N6NVA 458-3164
 TREASURER
 DICK SCHULZE AA6DL 935-5000
 EMERGENCY COORDINATOR
 DEREK BROWN N6CUK 672-2055
 BOARD MEMBERS
 JAY CALDIS KT6Y 939-1893
 JIM HOUSE KA6IVF 372-0345

THE MT. DIABLO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
 meets monthly, 3rd Friday, 8PM
 Grace Presbyterian Church
 2100 Tice Valley Boulevard
 Walnut Creek

NEXT MEETING - FRIDAY AUGUST 18

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME
 Please introduce yourself !

CLUB REPEATERS

147.06/+ 223.74/- 441.325/+
 (100Hz) (77 Hz) (100 Hz)

MT. DIABLO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NETS

Rocky Ridge Repeater Group
 Thursdays - 1930 hours - 147.06/+R
 Jay Caldis KT6Y Net Control

Amateur Television Net
 2000 hours (follows RRRG net)
 Mike Scott N6GOZ Net Control
 Don Smith W6NKF Alternate

OTHER CONTRA COSTA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO NETS

Contra Costa Repeater Assn.
 Mondays 7:35 PM 147.735/-R

Pleasant Hill Amateur Radio Club
 Wednesdays 1930 Hours 147.735/-R
 10-Meter Net 2000 Hours 28.310 MHz

RACES/ARES NETS

THURSDAYS . . 1900 HOURS
 *CENTRAL C.C.COUNTY 145.680/S
 James House, KA6IVF, E.C.
 372-0345
 *EAST C.C.COUNTY 146.540/S
 Rick Barber, WB6EZI, E.C.
 754-1610
 *SOUTH C.C.COUNTY 146.355/+R
 George Jones, KI6YK, E.C.
 937-9316
 *WEST C.C.COUNTY 145.110/-R
 Rachel Lewellen, KB6LHR, E.C.
 233-5034

*QSY to 147.735/-R at 1920 HOURS
 MEETING OF ALL RACES/ARES NETS

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY EMERGENCY
 RADIO SERVICES H.F.NET
 meets Monthly - 1st Thursday
 following the 1st Wednesday
 2000 Hours 3895 KHz
 Hank Berryman, W6ZHY, A.E.C.

SHERIFF'S UNIFORMED RESERVE
 For information contact:
 Vicki Zumwalt, N6KLS, Coor.
 Shirley McGlathery N6QHF
 Frieda Lucido N6PWT

THE ROCKY RIDGE REPEATER GROUP
 meets the 3rd Wednesday of ODD
 numbered months at the Willow
 Creek Center, 1026 Mohr Lane,
 Concord.

NEXT MEETING - SEPT.20 8:00PM
 Interested persons are welcome

CONTROL OPERATORS
 ROCKY RIDGE REPEATER GROUP
 Rick Barber WB6EZI 754-1610
 or (work) 835-5000 ext 239
 Jay Caldis KT6Y 939-1893
 Keith Lattin N6PMF 427-1651
 Don Ledwith K7SDF 372-7296
 Paul Parker WB6DHH 933-9940
 Don Peattie WB6TEE 935-2636
 Call the above for REPEATER
 problems or questions and
 MEMBERSHIP information

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Rich, Mgr. WA9WYB
IS-880 at 23rd Ave. Ramp

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AMECO	MFJ	FERRITE RODS
B & W	NVE	HAM PUBLICATIONS
BEARCAT	REGENCY	2 MTR AMPLIFIERS
BENCHER	WELZ	METERS
BUTERNUT	VAESU	SPEAKERS

1839 EAST STREET (across from Saller's)
CONCORD, CA 94520 (415) 685-7388

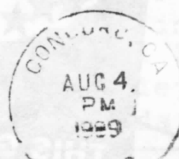
PL-259 ASSEMBLY

Assembling a PL-259 according to these guidelines takes only a few minutes and produces a dependable connector assembled as its manufacturer intended.

- *Always tin the braid before assembling the connector.
- *Use liquid rosin flux (available in tv parts houses).
- *Never try to solder nickel-plated connectors without first filing the edges of each connector-barrel solder hole to expose the brass connector material.
- *Use a soldering iron or gun of sufficient power; 100W is marginal in still air and insufficient in moving air.
- *Solder ALL of the connector-barrel solder holes. They are there to allow complete soldering of the braid (or braid and reducer) to the connector body.

"The CARRIER"

A Newsletter from the
MOUNT DIABLO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P.O. Box 23222
Pleasant Hill, California 94523



FIRST CLASS MAIL

